

## **PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS) REGULATIONS 2020**

### **Direction by Council of Ministers under Regulations 33C, 33D and 33E of Part 7A (Events and Gatherings) of the Public Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020 ("the Regulations") relating to the circumstances in which persons may gather together outside of their household**

#### **Part 1 - Direction**

1. The Council of Ministers, having considered the need to ensure the health and safety of all persons with regard to Coronavirus, makes this Direction under and in accordance with Part 7A of the Regulations.
2. The Council of Ministers in making this Direction has consulted with the Director of Public Health.
3. This Direction and the prohibitions, requirements and restrictions set out in Part 2 are in operation from 00:01 on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 and will remain in force until 00:01 on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

#### **Part 2- Prohibition of events and gatherings**

4. In accordance with Regulation 33B, no event or gathering may take place in a public place or a private place unless provided for in Regulation 33B(2)(a)-(d).
5. For the purposes of regulation 33C the events and gatherings specified in Part 3 of this Direction are exempt from the prohibition in regulation 33B.

#### **Part 3 – Exceptions to prohibition on events and gatherings**

##### **Funerals**

6. A person may gather with up to nine (9) other persons in total at the premises (inside or outside) at which the funeral is taking place subject to the following conditions:
  - (a) social distancing (being no closer in proximity than two (2) metres to another person) must be maintained at all times between all persons present other than members of the same household; and
  - (b) face coverings are worn by all persons present at all times.
7. For the purposes of paragraph 6 a funeral does not include any pre or post social gathering of attendees (a wake) which shall remain prohibited.

## **Employment and Emergency Services**

8. Where a person as an employer or employee attends a premises permitted to be open under any other Direction or in the case of emergency services wherever they are required to attend in fulfilment of their services.

## **Customers and Service Users**

9. Where a person is a customer or service recipient at a shop or business premises permitted to be open under any other Direction.

## **Gathering with own household**

10. In a public or private place where other persons may be present in accordance with any other permitted Direction and not in breach of any Direction or the Regulations in relation to household groups or social distancing or permitted outside exercise allowance. If a person gathers with the same household, this will not constitute a gathering for the purposes of regulation 33B.

## **Emergency Response**

11. Attending at an emergency where two (2) or more people may inadvertently congregate to expedite matters for the purposes of preserving life or property provided that appropriate social distancing, including the wearing of face coverings where reasonably practicable, is undertaken.

## **Care for children or vulnerable persons**

12. Caring for a child or vulnerable person in a household premises in accordance with an exception specified in regulation 26C or in Part 3 of the Exception Notice on Movement Etc.
13. Where a person ("P") permits another person ("X") to enter and remain in P's home in accordance with an exception specified in regulation 26C(1) of the Regulations or in Part 3 of the Exception Notice on Movement Etc, by which X is permitted to have left his or her home.

## **Vehicle Sharing**

14. Where a person ("P") shares a vehicle with another person ("X") and –
  - (a) P and X work for the same employer and the sharing of a vehicle in order for P and X to get to and from their place of employment or in the course of their employment is an established practice; or
  - (b) P and X are sharing the vehicle in connection with an exception specified in regulation 26C(1) of the Regulations or in Part 3 of the Exception Notice on Movement Etc (including for example the collection of a child or an assisted person (as defined in the Exception Notice) for whom P is to provide care), provided that as far as is reasonably practicable, social distancing (being no closer in proximity than two (2) metres to another person) is maintained at all times between all persons in the vehicle and face coverings are worn by all persons in the vehicle.

**Part 4- Definitions**

15. "Director of Public Health", "event", "gathering", "premises", "private place", "public place" and "vulnerable" all have the same meanings as in the Regulations.

**Part 5 - Revocation of previous Direction Notice**

16. Government Circular No 2021/008 in relation to Events and Gatherings is revoked from the date and time when this Direction Notice comes into operation.

**Signed**\_\_\_\_\_

**Chief Secretary on behalf of Council of Ministers**

**Date: 20 January 2021**

**Time: 17:17**